

REMARKS

Prior to examination of the present application, and further to the preliminary amendment filed on March 3, 2004, Applicant amends claim 23 and cancels claim 24. Claims 1-23 and 25-37 remain pending, for which an early notice of allowance is earnestly solicited.

Please charge any fees associated with the submission of this paper to Deposit Account Number 033975. The Commissioner for Patents is also authorized to credit any over payments to the above-referenced Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,
PILLSBURY WINTHROP LLP

Benjamin L. Kiersz
BENJAMIN L. KIERSZ
Reg. No. 51875
Tel. No. (703) 905-2114
Fax No. 703 905-2500

Date: January 27, 2005
P.O. Box 10500
McLean, VA 22102
(703) 905-2000